G. R. S. 59]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1905.
(Mulgrai.)

File No. 17

Serial Nos. 1—6

Papers Filed.

Month June 1906.

SUBJECT.

States that Government are not in a to contribute towards the restoration of the Desanatheswara Swami temple at Perunagaram in the Salem District.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. LATER REFERENCES

Muz. 8] 190 5

MUZRAI SECRETARIAT

OFFICE NOTE.

File No.

SUBJECT.

Prayer of P. V. Thasthageer of Pennagaram, Salem District , for the repairs of the " Thesanathaswara swami Temple" situated 7miles distant from the river Kaveri.

From

P. V. Thasthageer of Pennagaram.

Petn. No. 143/ 512 Dated 26th. July 1905.

One P. V. Thasthageer of Pennagaram, has submitted a Petition to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, stating that the temple of "Sri Thesanathaswara swami " was constructed by the ancestors of the present Mysore Royal Family, and that the management thereof was looked after by the Authorities of the State. The petitioner points out that the temple is held in great reverence on account of its situation on the banks of the river, Kaveri and that thousands

of Hindus go on pilgrimage to the place every year. Further, the petitioner states that the temple is now in a deplorably dilapidated condition and prays that His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore may be graciously pleased to order the repairs of the temple at Government cost. This Petition has been forwarded to the Muzrai Department for disposal.

2. With reference to the memorial of one M. V. Narayana Rao of Satyamangalam for some contribution from the State for repairing the temple of "Lakshminarasima Swami " it was ordered that Government could not comply with his request.

3. On a similar application (Registered No. 2897 dated 27-1-05) received from Chinnaiah, Pujari of Karimariamma's temple, Civil and Military station Bangalore, the Government directed that no help could be given from the Muzrai Funds for renovating the temple, situated out-side the Mysore Province..

4. Again, in reply to the petition of some of

Muzrai Secretariat. File No of 190

the residents of certain villages in Dindigul Taluk, Madura District, praying for some pecuniary help to construct a mantapam at Dindigul, the Government ~~directed~~ informed them could not that they ~~cannot~~ comply with the ~~Petitioners~~ request.

Subd. for orders with the files referred to above

Js
8/8/05

31
What action should be taken in the matter? This was considered by the ancestors of the present Govt. Please call the papers & see what was certain the last & repeat upon its present condition. (Mr. Smith dealing)
Subd
18.VIII.05

As in the previous cases referred to above, I think a reply may be given to the effect that the Govt regret that they cannot comply with the Petitioners request.
Submit to the Dewan through the 2nd Secy
Chandrasekhara
11/8/05

26
11.8.05

L Nagappa
11/8/05

aft Ld
19/8/05

Ld
12/8/05

Rd
19/8/05

Issue the draft put up
Ld 19/8/05

8138/16.8.05 Rd 12/8/05

MGCPB—3,500—15-10-04

PTO

4

Mazrui Secretariat Feb Sec of 190

PTO

MGCPB--3,500 15 10-01.

Muzrai Secretariat. File No. of 190

Note cont'd :—

The enquiry ordered by Sir Krishnamurti, late Dewan, on page 3 of this note was made through the Residency. The Forest Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident forwards copies of reports of the Deputy Tahsildar of Pennagaram, the Tahsildar of Dharmapuri and of Letter. No. 1387 dy 12th May 1906 from the Collector of Salem, four all of which it is observed as follows.

The temple situated on the banks of the Cauvery River which is held sacred by the Hindus, is dedicated to Sri Desandheeswaraswamy and is in the enjoyment of a Cash Jaadik of Rs 120-0-0 per annum and inam lands measuring 27 acres

assessed at Rs 30-4-3. There are no records to show when & by whom the temple was built, but it is stated that the local traditional belief is that it was built by the Ruling family of Ikkeri and that remittances were being received annually from the Ikkeri Govt. In support of the above view it is stated that the name of the deity (Desanatheswara) is occasionally borne by the members of the Ruling family of Ikkeri. Large numbers of pilgrims resort to the inst.n occasionally. The temple is stated to be in an utterly dilapidated condition and an estimate for Rs 20,000/ for renovating it has been forwarded

Submitted for orders

H/ 28/5/06 JS

11/6/06

Muzrai Secretariat. File No. of 190

Muzrai Secretary's remarks:-

It appears from the reports of the Deputy Tahsildar and the Tahsildar received with the Residency communication that the temple in question was probably constructed in former days by the Rulers of Mysore and maintained by them, but that subsequent to the Fall of Seringapatam in 1799, when the Salem and Coimbtore Districts were ceded to the British Government, the Mysore Rajas had no hand whatever in the management of the temple. Further, the estimate received is for the large sum of Rs. 20,000. Considering the heavy demands upon the Government for the restoration of the many old temples, Mosques and Chattrams in the State, it does not seem possible to do anything for the temple under consideration.

The petitioner may, if approved, be informed that the Government of H.H. the Maharaja regret that they are not in a position to contribute towards the restoration of a temple which is situated outside their jurisdiction and which

MGCPB—3,500—15-10-04.

Muzrai Secretariat. File No. of 190

ceased to be connected with the State more than a century ago.

A copy of the reply may be communicated to the Residency.

The Memorial in this case was received from the Private Secretary to H.H. the Maharaja for disposal.

Submitted to the Dewan thro' the 2nd Councillor

K Ananta Samy Rao 14/6/06

K/D 15-6-06.

I concur

K V Krishnamachetty 2nd Councillor

967 19-6-06 16/6/06

Ll 19/6/06 The Dewan also concurs - AB 20/6/06

Draft accepted Ll 22/6/06

Draft submitted [illegible]

MGCPB—3,500—15-10-04.

512

Pennagaram
19th July 05.

To

His Highness The Maharaja
of Mysore.

OFFICE OF THE PRIVATE SECRETARY
143
26 JUL 1905
TO THE MAHARAJA OF

May it please your Highness.

I. P. V. Thasthagur son of Vazeer seik Imaundar and Village Munsiff of Mattam Village Dharmapuri Taluq. Salem District most respectfully beg to approach your highness and state as follows. ——

Rec 21.7.05

At a distance of 7 miles from this Pennagaram runs the Sacred River Cauvery and passes under the name of "Hogenakul Cauvery" which is asserted in the Cauvery Puranam and other Sacred books of the Hindus to be as Sacred a place of pilgrimage as the Ganges in Benares. Thousands of Hindus from all parts of India resort to this place as pilgrimage every year during the Tamil months of Arpasi (அரைப்பசி) and Audi 18th (ஆடி 18) and perform their holy ablutions in the river with a view to their sins being expiated and of getting themselves salvation.

A temple dedicated to Siva and known as "Thesina Atheswara Swami temple" stands on the bank of the Cauvery river at this place and highness the Sanctity of the river. The Origin of the place, it is generally believed, dates from the time of your highness's ancestors who had it constructed and looked to its proper management, when all these pertained

Pennagram
19th July 1905.

To.

His Highness The Maharaja
of Mysore

May it please your Highness.

I. P. V. Thasthageer son of Vazeer Saib Inamdar and Village munisiff of Matam Village Dharmapuri Taluk, Salem District most respectfully beg to approach your Highness and state as follows.

At a distance of 7 mails from this Pennagaram runs the Sacred river Cauvery and passes under the name of Hoghenakul Cauvery which is asserted in the Cauvery puranam and other sacred books of the Hindus to be as Sacred a place of pilgrimage as the Ganges in Benares. Thousands of Hindus from all parts of India resort to the place as pilgrimage ~~as the~~ every year during the Tamil month of Alpisi (ஐப்பசி) and Audi, 18th (ஆடி ௧௮) and perform there holy ablution in the river with a view to their sins being expiated and of getting themselves Salvation

A Temple dedicated to Siva ~~and known~~
and known as "Thesinatheswaraswa-
ami temple" stands on the bank of
the Cauveri river at this place and
hightens the Sanctity of the river.
The Origen of the place, it is generally
believed, dates from the time of
your Highness's ancestors time who
had it Constructed and looked to
its proper management when all
these parts were one included in
your Highness's Kingdom. A
reference to the records of the Salem
Collector's office will reveal the fact
that this temple and these parts
once belonged to the Mysore Kingdom.

Time has laid its hand upon
this temple and it is now in a
very dilapidated condition. One
and all of the pilgrims that con-
gregate here annually feel
very much for the present deplorable
Condition that it has come to
and in unmistakeable terms
give vent to there feelings of
intense sorrow. The truth
of this statement may well be
understood, if some of your
Highness's servants be deputed
to proceed to the place and directed
to submit a report as to the con-
-dition of the temple or if the
Collector of the Salem District
be addressed on the subject.

It is certain that this
Sacred temple erelong, will fall
a victim to the havoces of time

time

time and, it may even become difficult to identify the place where it now stands. Since there is no likelihood of the temple being repaired either by the Committee to whom its management is ~~now~~ entrusted or the people in the ~~vicinity~~ neighbourhood, for want of funds.

Your Highness's humble Servant, most respectfully beg to appeal to Your Highness's generosity and to pray that Your Highness will be graciously pleased to issu orders to carry out the repairs of the temple Constructed and once cared for by your Highness's philanthropic ancestors, which when accomplished will serve as a fitting rial to your Highness Charitable disposition.

Although as a Muhammadan it not become my humble self to take terest in the cause of a Hindu temple yet my love & loyalty to the Kingdom of Mysore and to its Charitable institution has induced me to represent ~~me~~ this to Your Highness. My forefathers were once ~~a~~ royal servants of the Mysore Kingdom the Inam lands that were bestowed them by the Mysore Government then the good services rendered by them to the state, or still in the enjoyment of my family.

Soliciting the favour of a reply my humble petition and fervently praying Your Highness Long life & Prosperity, I pray to remain Your Highness most ~~from~~ Humble & Loyal Servant

sd/ I. K. P. Khaleel

Muz. 2]

No. 1258 Enquiry

GOVERNMENT OF H. H. THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE,

MUZRAI DEPARTMENT,

DATED BANGALORE, 6th September 1905

FROM

L. ANANTASAMI RAO, ESQ., B.A.,

SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF H. H. THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE,

MUZRAI DEPARTMENT.

To

R. C. H. Moss King, Esqr., I. C. S.,

First Assistant to the Hon'ble the

British Resident in Mysore.

SIR,

I am directed to forward herewith (in original) a petition Regd. No. 512/143 dated 19th July 1905, addressed to H.H.the Maharaja by one Dastagir Shaeb, Inamdar and village Munsiff of Matam village Dharmapuri Taluk, Salem District.

2. The petitioner states that the Thesinatheswara swamy temple situated on the bank of the Kaveri about 7 miles away from the Pennagaram village in the Dharmapuri Taluk , was constructed and maintained by the ancestors of H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore at the time when the Salem District formed part of the territories of Mysore, and prays that as the temple is in a very dilapidated condition, repairs may be executed thereto at the cost of the Mysore Government.

3. I am directed to request that you will be so good as to place the matter before the Hon'ble the Resident and

to ascertain from the Collector of the Salem District whether the statement of the petitioner that the temple in question was built by the ancestors of the ruling family of Mysore is a fact. I am also to request the favour of information as to the present condition of the temple, what endowments it enjoys, by whom it is managed, and what it would cost to repair it.

I have the honor to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,

4/9/05

S e c r e t a r y, Museum Dept

Report of the deputy Tahsildar, Pennagaram, to the Collector of Salem, through the Sub-Collector of Hosur, and Tahsildar of Dharmapuri, No. D102 dated 9th march 1906

In obedience to your honour's endorsement No. 2530 dated 18th September 1905, I beg most respectfully to submit the following report in regard to the temple in Maligai.

2. The temple is dedicated to Siva and it is on the eastern bank of the Cauvery within the Revenue village of Maligai. The place where the temple is situated is also popularly called Hogenkal Cauvery for the river at this place falls down a depth of about 80 feet and sprays which are popularly believed to be hoge or smoke rises above the surface of the river The

temple is now in the midst of forests and at a distance of 9 miles west of Pennagaram. Even Oddapatti which remained as a separate village and in which there was a Police station, has lost its entity as a separate village. The whole village is within the reserved forest which bears its name. There are about 4 or 5 houses at Oddapatti and the inhabitants cultivate the lands which are leased out by the Forest Department within the Reserved Forest. This deterioration in the condition of this village and of ~ other villages which have become extinct in and around Maligai is generally ascribed to the unhealthy climate of the locality.

3 The temple is an old one and the presiding deity in that temple is Siva. There are other minor deities such as Thripurasundari (wife of Siva), Ganesha, Subramania, Panchalingam etc round the shrine of Siva. A plan showing the

Temple buildings is herewith submitted. It is not known by whom the temple was constructed. According to the Puranam of the temple the Sivalingam within the inner shrine was fixed by Agasthi munix The local enquiry made goes to show that the temple was constructed by the Maharaja of mysore. But the persons examined cannot give any authority for their statements. Thus the statement tha the temple was constructed by the mysore Maharaja is nothing more than a traditionary belief. Even now a plot of land measuring about 27.01 acres is held on inam tenure. At the time of inam Settlement Title Deed No 3748 was issued in the name of the deity. But it is not known by whom this grant was made But there is no doubt that the

deity was held in high esteem by the Mysore Royal family. For it is said that the deity is looked upon as a tutelary deity by one of the Princes of that family.

4. The temple is also held in high esteem by the Hindus. But they do not go solely to worship in this temple. Whenever the Hindus go to the river to bathe they also go to the temple. It has to be said here that the bathing in the Cauvery at this ~~temple~~ place is held sacred even by the Hindus living on the banks of the same river at other places. The principal occasions on which they go to bathe at this place are noted below:-

1. 18th of Adi (Corresponding to 31st July
2. Kula festival in November
   Solar eclipse

4. Lunar eclipse
5. Thai New Moon-day
6. Adi New Moon-day.

The popular belief is that at this place the river passes through the Yaga kundam of Brahma It is for this reason that bathing in the river at this place is held sacred. On occasions like those enumerated above the persons residing at places such as Seringapatam Bhowanie &c, which are on the banks of the same river may be seen at this places. On the 18th Adi there will be a gathering about 20000 to 30000 persons and non-brahmin sects would form the principal portion of the gathering. On this occasion there will be a large number

of shops of all kinds. The gatherings on the festival occasions are not very large and consist chiefly of Brahmin sect. But owing to the prevalence of plague for the last 7 years, the gatherings at the temple are not permitted

5. The temple is in a ruined condition. In its present condition it is not capable of any improvement. If all present structure should be pulled down and re constructed, the cost of the work is estimated by the Mining Irrigation Overseer at Rs. 20000/. I consulted the temple Trustee M. R. Ry Ponnuswamy Thethiar Avl. This gentleman states that the administration of temple funds of this and other temples in the Taluk rests in him as a trustee, that the temple allowance received for this temple from the government is Rs 120-6-4 and that whole of this amount is spent annually

nothing is realized by the main lands referred to in para 3 supra which is granted for the maintenance of the temple archaka The main is in the midst of forest and considerable difficulty is experienced in keeping it under cultivation It now remains waste The trustee further state that sufficient amount for reconstructing the temple could not be realized either by making collections from the pilgrims coming to the temple or from the surplus of the allowances sanctioned for other temples. There are many wealthy gentlemen in this and the Coimbatore Districts. The trustee is very confident that if applications for funds are made to them they would be readily complied with. He states that he has no objection to the temple being reconstructed by the Mysore Government and that even the temple committee of which his brother in law M R Ry Ambalathadi Chettiar Avl. is a member would have no objection. But this is a point in which the orders of the India Government in the Political department have to be obtained. I have however to state that since the Salem and Coimbatore districts came to the British possession after the fall of Seeranga patam

in 1799, the Mysore Government never incurred any expenditure on account of this temple. Most people say that the Mysore Government conducted car festivals and other festivals at the temple. Most of them have no personal knowledge. If there is any one who makes statements, they must refer to a period prior to the fall of Srirangapatana. At present there is no car for the temple. It is said that it was washed away by the river which runs within 300 feet from the temple. None can state when this was done. Papers as per enclosed list are submitted.

Endorsement of the Tahsildar of Sharanpur, D. No 4162/28.3.1906.

Respectfully submitted, to the Collector of Salem through the Sub Collector, Hosur, with reference to End. No 2530/18.9.1905.

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2. The question on which a report called for are as stated below:—

The enquiry conducted by the Tahsildar does not conclus

Question No 1
To what point whether the Statement that the Temple was built by the Ruling Family of Mysore is a fact.

disclose the fact. There is no direct evidence either oral or documentary to point to the fact. I have been in Pennagaram Division in 1890-91 and I do not remember any one having said that the temple is a Creation of the Mysore Ruling Family. The persons examined by the Deputy Tahsildar have deposed to hearsay evidence on the point but it cannot at the same time be said that their Statements are improbable. It might be that the temple was built by the said Ruling Family, 1st ly because it is seen that the name of the deity "Dasaratha" occurs among the names of members of the Ruling Family and 2nd ly because such charitable institutions of the said Ruling Family were not wanting even in places far removed the side of the temple in ques

It may be said to the point that in a place like Thoppur about 40 or 50 miles from Hosakal towards Salem, there was, I hear, even today here while in Camp – a Chattram established by the said Ruling Family, with sufficient endowments allotted to it for feeding any number of travellers that might happen to pass to and fro through Thoppur situated by the side of Bangalore-Salem Road.

I have seen this temple personally. It is in a dilapidated condition giving shelter to venomous reptiles and not safely approachable for fear of the roof coming down with mighty weight at any moment. The repair though not reconstruction is a thing highly desirable and devoutly wished for.

Question No. 2. To report about the present condition of the temple

A sum of Rs 120-6-4 is paid from Government Treasury annually as temple allowance as in the case of other temples. Besides this a lot Land. measuring 27 acres is held

Question No. 3. To report the endowments at the time which the temple enjoyed

an Inam tenure bearing title Deed No. 3748 for the maintenance of the temple Archaka but this lying waste, the Village being uninhabited and unhealthy.

Question No. 4. To report by whom the temple is managed

By the temple Committee.

Qn. No 5. To report the Cost of the repairs to the temple

An Estimate prepared by the Mirasdar Irrigation Overseer is submitted. It is prepared to the extent of Rs 20,000/—

Sub-Collr's Notes in the margin Rs 20,000 is as much as a King's Ransom

The temple is situated at a distance of 10 miles from Pennagaram ~~and other places~~. It cannot be said for certain that the estimated Cost of Rs 20,000/— will not be exceeded. To have the Estimate revised by a P. W. Officer will not be out of place On the whole, it may be said that the restoring of the temple to o is a matter worthy of favourable Consr

And it is also respectfully submitted that the labour spent on it may not in my opinion, prove labour lost.

Sd) M. R. Srinivasachargar.
Ag Tahsildar.

Sub-Collector's Endorsement No. 1161/Rev 9
4-5-06.

Forwarded to the Collector of Salem with all the enclosures.

Sd) J. J. Cotton.
Ag. Sub Collector

True copy
Sd)
for Collector

"

Copy.

Stores 9/5

544

Letter No. 1387 dated 17th May 1906 from the Collector and District Magistrate, Salem to the First Assistant to the Hon'ble the President in Mysore.

In reply to your letter of the 14th September last, No. 5240, I have the honour to report that there are no records to show by whom the temple was built. Several persons likely to know about the subject have been examined by the Deputy Tahsildar of Pennagaram. They state that the traditional belief is that the temple was built by the ruling family of Mysore and that remittances were being received annually from the Mysore Government for the celebration of the Car festival etc.,. This view is supposed to receive support from the fact that the name of the Deity (Deseenathaswara Swami) is occasionally borne by members of the Mysore Royal family.

2. The temple is managed by the temple committee and enjoys an annual allowance of Rs. 120-6-4 in cash from the British Government and an inam consisting of 27 acres of land assessed at Rs. 30-4-3. This grant existed from before the paimash and was confirmed at the inam settlement. This shows that the temple was supported by former Governments of the country. It is situated on the banks of the Cauvery which is held sacred by the Hindus, and large numbers of pilgrims resort to it twice during the year.

3. The temple is in a dilapidated condition and its restoration according to the original design and size is estimated to cost Rs. 20,000.

4. The reports of the Deputy Tahsildar, Pennagaram, and the Tahsildar of Dharmapuri and other enclosures, together with an estimate of repairs and plan are enclosed as also the petition received with your letter under reply.

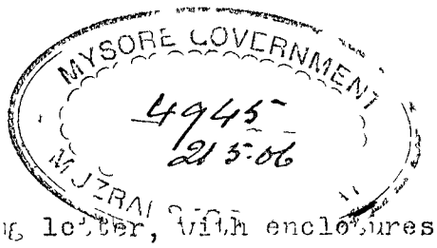
P.No. 1936 & 2150 6

No. 2941 one file of papers

Mysore Resident's Office.

Dated, Bangalore 19th May 1906

Pol no 1986 21.5.06.



Copy of the foregoing letter, with enclosures, is forwarded to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, with reference to Mr. Anantasami Rao's letter No. 1258 dated the 6th September 1905.

First Assistant President.

Transferred to the Secretary to the Govt of the Maharaja of Mysore in the Muzrai Dept.

By order

Secretary
21/5/06 Govt Dept.

Rupees
21/5/06

Please type two copies

5968

D/28.6.06

Endorsement passed to P.V. Dasharia Sab, son of Varjia Sab, Village Munsiff of Malam Village, Dharmapuri Taluk, Salem District, in reply to his memorial addressed to H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, praying for the repairs of the Thesavatheswara swami temple.

The memorialist is informed that the Govt. of H.H. the Maharaja regret that they are not in a position to contribute towards the restoration of the temple in question which is situated outside the limits of the Mysore State & which ceased to be connected with the ~~Mysore~~ State more than a century ago.

By
Dewan's order

Dt 23/6/06 W 27/6/06

46

No. 5969 Enquiry file
Dy 28.6.06

The First Assistant to the
Hon'ble the Resident
in Mysore

Sir,

Adverting to your
End.t No. 2941 of the 29th
May 1906, forwarding letter
No. 1387 of the 12 idem from
the Collector of Salem, regarding
the affairs of the Desanatt-
-eswaraswami temple
in the Revenue village of
Malisai, Rennagaram sub Taluk,
I am directed to forward
herewith copy of an Endorsement
granted to P. V. Dastagir
Sab, requesting the Durbar's
inability to contribute
towards

Pot of the temple as prayed for by him.

2. The enclos+ received with your communication under reply are herewith returned.

Keep copies of the important papers and return the

Yh 23/6

I have te

Yh 23/6/06

Dewan's order)

Legislative Dept.

W. 23.6.06 Yh 23/6/06